



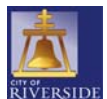
**APPENDIX B**  
**UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN**

**MEETING #1 SUMMARY REPORT**





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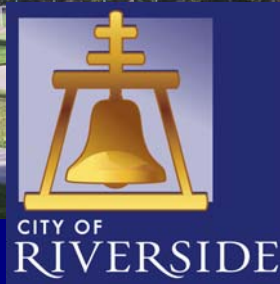
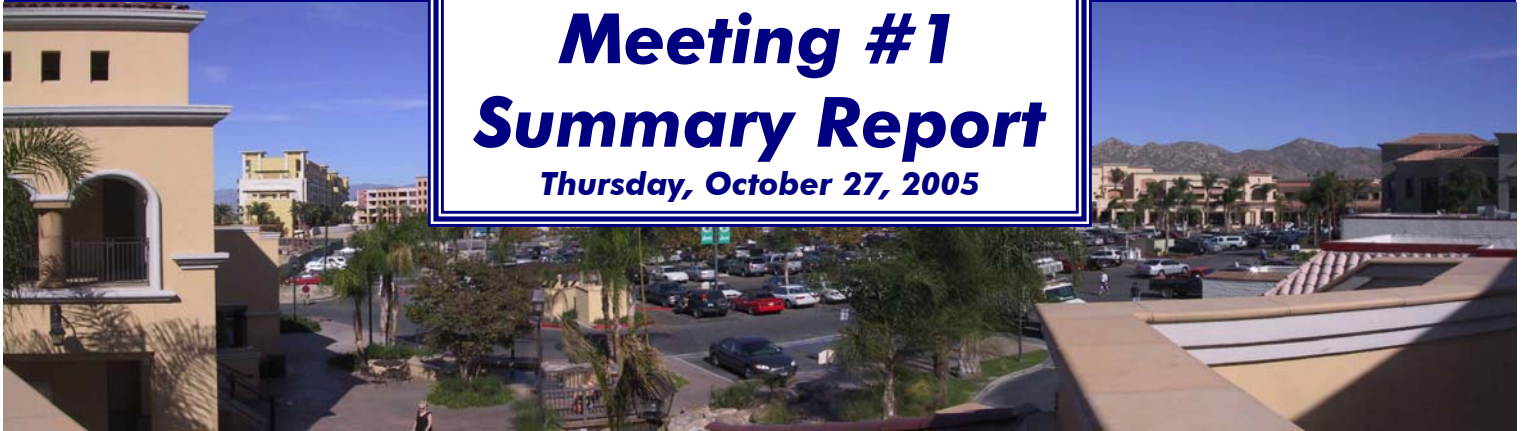




# UNIVERSITY NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

## **Meeting #1 Summary Report**

*Thursday, October 27, 2005*



## **DEFINING THE VISION**

*Your Neighborhood- Your Issues*





# **DEFINING THE VISION**

## *Your Neighborhood- Your Issues*



On October 27, 2005 the City of Riverside hosted a public visioning session at Hyatt Elementary School as part of the University Neighborhood Plan development efforts. Over 200 University Neighborhood residents participated in this exciting event and provided many excellent comments about their community.

The University Neighborhood residents were asked to brainstorm about important issues that face their community. The comments were transcribed live on a computer and projected on a screen at the front of the room to ensure that the comments were recorded correctly. Participants were also asked to fill out feedback forms and return them at the end of the meeting, giving everyone an opportunity to participate and share their thoughts. The handwritten comments on these forms were later combined with the comments received during the discussion as a record of the evening's discussions, which will be used throughout the development of the University Neighborhood Plan.

This document summarizes all of the feedback received and begins to categorize the comments into basic community elements. This document is organized into four sections that reflect the questions posed at the meeting and on the feedback form: (1) *What do you like about your University Neighborhood?* (2) *What would you like to change in your University Neighborhood?* (3) *What are the most important issues in your neighborhood?* (4) *Other Comments.*





## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**



### **Question 1: What do you like about your University Neighborhood?**

When asked to discuss what they liked about the University Neighborhood, the residents were eager to provide many comments, and it was clear that there was a tremendous sense of pride within the community. The comments received illustrate why the University Neighborhood continues to be one of Riverside's most desirable communities.

The comments have been categorized into eight community elements and summarized below. For the purpose of condensing this document, comments that were repeated multiple times are represented once.

#### ***Social Aspects***

- Active, engaged citizenship in the neighborhood
- Presence of people outdoors (runners/ walkers)
- The existence of active neighborhood organizations
- Extremely active, participating neighborhood organizations
- Family-oriented
- People have a stake in the neighborhood
- Nice, diverse area where people live in a friendly manner
- Harmonious, diverse neighborhood
- Diversity
- People look out for each other when they are away
- Presence of people outdoors
- The tradition of successes in neighborhood
- Quiet, older, safe, mature family neighborhood
- Interactive neighbors
- Peace and quiet prior to so many rentals and students

## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**



- The stability and tenure of neighbors – 15 to 30 years
- Friendly atmosphere
- Good neighbors
- The community is involved and concerned about each other
- Pride of ownership
- Caring, active, creative, engaged citizens
- Young and mature resident blend
- Most are families of long standing
- Close knit neighborhood

### **Housing Aspects**

- Great housing stock, mature trees
- Low-density, not a crowded area with large lots
- Low density with single-family homes
- Nice residential neighborhood
- Mostly single family residences
- Attractive residences
- Large lots with housing
- Most homes are owner occupied
- Great housing stock and mature trees
- Beautiful homes
- Diversity of landscaping and house architecture
- Lack of track housing
- Almost all of the homes are well kept
- Devotion to homes, rather than business or apartments
- Affordable housing for young families and retired persons
- Cookie-cutter 50s homes

### **Setting/Location**

- Location
- Location – one of the nicest in Riverside – the way it is now
- The way it is now
- Close to market, post office, bank
- Remote from outside influence
- The area is historically one of the earliest, best, diverse communities in Riverside
- Relatively close to commercial, institutional, and industrial areas
- Access to shopping and entertainment
- Neighborhood nodes or centers already established
- Being on the edge of the city up against the mountains



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

- Small, friendly town atmosphere
- The residential 'feel' of the neighborhood
- The proximity to downtown and shopping areas
- Location – close to many things yet removed from the mainstream hustle and bustle

### ***Aesthetics and Noise***

- Quiet
- Clean neighborhood with no graffiti
- It was beautiful and still is
- Clean streets
- Clean
- Freedom to decide plantings for lawn

### ***Transportation***

- No busy thoroughfares
- Access to the RTA
- Street plans that discourage thru traffic
- Ability to walk to work
- Access to public transit is better than most
- Easy access to other areas
- Quiet, relatively free of traffic
- Access to the RTA

### ***Parks and Open Space***

- Close proximity to open spaces
- Bike paths to the University area
- Wildlife-good natural environment
- Undeveloped mountains
- Access to wilderness
- Historic trails for riding, biking, hiking
- Close to open spaces and undeveloped mountains
- Accessibility to Box Spring Mountain
- Walking distance to Islander Park and Box Springs
- Serene location
- Proximity to wilderness parks
- Close to large parks with space for exercise
- Open spaces nearby
- Lots of green trees and plants and wildlife
- Nature in our own backyard
- Wilderness areas – Box Springs, Islander Park, Coyote Park



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**



- The wildlife
- Scenic views
- Relatively easy access to beaches and mountains
- Hills to hike on
- Lots of green, close to Box Springs
- Uncluttered
- Access to Botanical garden and Box Springs Hills
- Islander Park
- City parks and open space of Box Spring Mountains

### ***Health and Safety***

- Good police response
- Safe Streets.
- Stable environment
- Low crime rate
- The homes are perfect for families to live safely
- Drivers (in the neighborhood) obey the traffic rules – slow speed and parking
- Safe for walking self, dogs, wildlife
- Good police response
- Very limited traffic – children can play on streets
- No busy streets
- There is very little crime, if any
- Neighbors look out for each other's property when out of town
- People look out for each other

### ***University-Related***

- Walking distance to University facilities
- Bike paths to the University area
- The fact that UCR is making an effort to be a good neighbor
- Interaction of residential area with functions of university
- Proximity to UCR
- Lots of university people as residents
- That we have access to the university events, the freeways
- University facilities readily available – good quiet area



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**



### **Question 2: What would you like to change in your University Neighborhood?**

Despite the many positive aspects of the University Neighborhood, many of the residents feel that enhancements or changes could be made to create a more enjoyable environment. When asked what they would like to change in their neighborhood, the residents demonstrated their passion and desire to maintain the neighborhood quality. The comments received ranged from large, neighborhood-wide issues to location-specific issues.

The comments for this question are categorized into fourteen community elements and summarized below. To eliminate redundancy within this document, comments that were repeated multiple times are simply represented once.

### ***Traffic and Parking***

#### **Blaine:**

- Need to control speeding on Blaine St
- Trucks on Blaine
- Traffic on Blaine
- Speed reduced and enforced on Blaine
- Speed bumps on Blaine (near Mt. Vernon)
- Stop signs on Blaine
- Sign for trucks telling them that Blaine St. doesn't go anywhere (near railroad tracks)

#### **Watkins:**

- Remove cars from Watkins
- Reduce traffic flow on Watkins from Blaine to the freeway

## University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1



- Reduction of traffic along Watkins raceway
- Leave Watkins one lane each way
- Reduce traffic on Watkins from Blaine to Freeway
- Have traffic speed limit reduced on Watkins between Blaine and Freeway
- Reduce traffic flow along Watkins
- Less traffic and parking all up and down Watkins Drive
- Return Watkins back to a neighborhood street

### Other Streets:

- Spruce St—it's a speedway; not landscaped; used as a dumping grounds; not striped properly; dangerous; this entire corridor needs to be addressed
- Force the railroad to fix the crossing on Spruce St—need a stop sign near University middle school
- Crossing Linden in the morning near school creates traffic jams for North High
- Picacho is too narrow for parking on both sides – when that happens emerging vehicles can't get through

### General/Misc. Comments:

- Stop the proliferation of street parking
- North of University, more enforcement of speed on Mt Vernon, Valencia Hill, Watkins
- Kmart, Stator Bros parking lots need to be addressed
- Traffic and resulting noise
- Better traffic control
- Reduced student parking
- Parking controlled adjacent to UCR
- Reduced through traffic of non-residents
- Better circulation to get "behind" UCR
- Our neighborhood streets used as a parking lot for UCR
- No vehicles parking at the corners of the exits of the streets
- Better traffic enforcement – speeding especially
- Better parking for students and guests
- Allow residents to park at their home and have limited short term parking (residential parking permits)

### **Public Safety**

- A serious crackdown on crimes that happen on a regular basis- armed robbery, petty theft
- Community policing for crime suppression



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

- Crime- no more apartments
- More police patrols in the neighborhood
- Reduce drug traffic

### ***Parks, Open Space and Trails***

#### **Highland Park:**

- Bathroom in Highland park
- Signs preventing motorized vehicles at Highland Park
- Bathrooms would be nice at Highland Park

#### **Islander Park:**

- Better entranceway to Islander Park
- “No motorized vehicles” signs at entrance to Islander Park.  
There have been problems with trucks full of kids off-roading on trails in parks. They get access from the north end of Islander Park
- Garbage cans near rubber trees to Islander Park to prevent littering
- I would like to see more developed park space at Islander Park

#### **Box Springs Mountains:**

- Cultural park at the entrance to the Box Springs Mountains
- Barriers need to be put up near mountains
- Restriction and enforcement of off road vehicles in the mountains
- Restrict/ enforce the use of off-road vehicles in foothills

#### **Trails:**

- Clear coordination with county with regard to trails—  
coordinating city trails with county trails
- Trails network being constructed should be mapped and designated as part of this neighborhood plan
- Well-marked and new bike paths

#### **General/Misc. Comments:**

- Parks for our kids
- More developed parks



- Respect the proximity of neighborhood to important wildlife Zone—lighting should not impact the wildlife—animals need the dark.
- Arroyo system and wildlife corridors should be protected
- More access for the disabled—in the parks—people in wheelchairs don't have places to go—more space in the parks for disabled individuals
- The lack of useful and well maintained public space
- More parks for children to play and for adult exercise
- Preserve and protect buffer parkland- add large, old properties to parkland- new pocket parks with "tot" lots
- Develop parks; don't just put up signs over dirt (at least a walking path)
- Development of park at corner of Blaine and Valencia Hill
- Park maintenance (safety)
- More open, green space
- Swimming pool open evenings/weekends

### ***Development Practices/Development Pressure***

- Reduce the allowed rentals per unit from 4 to 2
- Moratorium on new apartments
- Complete moratorium on high density housing east of Watkins
- Building height restricted to 5 stories
- Blaine and Flanders area—all development needs to stop
- Houses are being constructed really close together. This is creating a slum like environment
- Less transient housing such as apartments—there is already plenty in the neighborhood
- City should ensure proper development at gateway area
- No more high-density development behind UCR
- Stop apartment buildings- too many in the area now
- No development bordering Islander Park or Box Springs
- More student housing on UCR campus for students instead of more apartments in area and houses turned into rentals
- Fewer rentals, i.e. fewer college students in single-family homes
- Less building of apartments and condos
- Stop building apartments and businesses
- Slowing of development, especially high density
- I would like the treat of my house being taken away removed



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

- Over-development needs to stop, no eminent domain

### **Community Facilities/Arts and Culture**

- Senior citizen building on east side
- City should buy back Watkins house and turn it into the community center that it once was. This needs to be done in the next month because the house is being demolished
- Community center for meetings and activities
- Add a senior center in the neighborhood
- Youth programs, more parks
- Community center for meetings and activities
- Library and/or community center
- Development of cultural heritage
- More recognition of the cultural heritage of this neighborhood
- Library
- Celebrate cultural history of people in this neighborhood
- DSL and fiber optic serving the neighborhood
- The city needs to work with the school district to develop football fields at North and Poly—Replace bookmobile services

### **Metrolink/Public Transit**

- Lack of rapid transit
- Improved access to public transportation
- No UCR stop for Metrolink if it comes
- If Metrolink comes, take high volume parking to a terminal in High Grove and assure that it will not create an eminent domain threat.
- No Metrolink trains near UCR
- The plan should not include a Metrolink station at Watkins or Spruce
- High Grove site is better
- Train noise
- No Metrolink on tracks
- Keep Metrolink stations out of residential area
- No Metrolink trains
- I would like to see less train traffic
- Train overpass at Iowa
- No or less rail traffic
- Metrolink station on Spruce and Rustin





### **Economic Development/Opportunities**

- Grocery store closer, youth programming, coffee shops (local business development)
- More restaurants instead of fast food
- More nightlife venues near UCR for students to reduce the demand for house parties
- More economic development- grocery stores, cafes, entertainment
- Support neighborhood business development- streetscape
- Redevelopment of our facilities- more shopping, less drive thru
- Clean up Stater Bros. and Kmart on Iowa
- Supermarket closer to Watkins/Blaine
- Improvement of shopping center on Big Springs and Watkins
- Improved quality of existing commercial development
- Well thought out commercial/ retail stores, including grocery and restaurants

### **Noise**

- No overhead flights from DHL
- Cars and motorcycles that don't have mufflers need to be ticketed
- Better noise control along freeway corridor (sound walls)
- No low level helicopters in the evening
- Restriction and enforcement of off road vehicles in the mountains

### **City Management**

- Development of specific and general plans—assure that they don't get shelved and collect dust
- City of Riverside needs to take control to define what UCR and local developers can do
- Sphere of influence should be reviewed by commission—City needs to control its sphere of influence to the top of the hill (Box Springs view shed)
- Control over construction on freeway—City needs to pressure Caltrans to finish
- Eminent domain concern—City, Redevelopment Agency
- City should ensure proper development at gateway area
- Better response of the City and the University to problems



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

- Would like to have the City of Riverside listen and respond to the needs of the community around UCR so that the residential area stays residential instead of allowing the university students and freeway traffic to take over the area.
- Full inclusion of neighborhood watches, traffic and parking
- Stepchild status of traffic, police, services and parking (from both City Hall and the City Council)
- Stop disking and mow instead
- The city should present to community at large positive things of this area

### **Neighborhood Quality**

- Monies spent on this neighborhood should be used to preserve the neighborhood as it is—not for new development
- Things that improve the appearance of the community—to create a better environment
- In the community—we don't need more regulations.
- Outreach between the homeowners and other residents such as renters—a way to interact and create a dialogue— involvement with neighborhood association
- More access for the disabled—in the parks—people in wheelchairs don't have places to go—more space in the parks for disabled individuals
- The failure of some residents to maintain their property
- Renters should maintain properties
- More street frontage landscape improvements
- Removal of all fraternity and sorority houses
- Reduction in rental properties
- Students housed on UCR campus
- Ramps for handicapped people living in the area
- Dramatic decrease in number of UCR students renting single-family homes
- Single-family homes to remain for single families
- I think some higher end living in the area would be beneficial
- Reduce rentals from four to two people per house or unit
- Put telephone lines/ electric wires...etc underground
- People to keep their yards maintained

### **Relationship to UCR**

- University could be more friendly to the community
- Joint use fire station between UCR and the City

## University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1



- Greek row needed near UCR and potentially on campus
- UCR should rethink the placement of the large parking structure—from Valencia Hill to parking lot 1 or Martin Luther King (lot 30)
- UCR property sold to developers should require that people live in the house that is developed. (no more investment properties rented to students and others)
- More nightlife venues near UCR for students to reduce the demand for house parties
- Keep student housing on campus and not in the neighborhoods
- The prevailing negative attitude against UCR as a growing institution
- More university participation in street parking
- Get university students on campus and out of neighborhoods
- Care needed in further development of UCR
- UCR contained on its own property- all students on campus
- UCR- encroachment/ students (often many) in single home residences
- Use UCR married housing area for more student housing. World War II houses are a blight and dangerous
- Fewer student rentals
- Less student housing in our homes- more on UCR property
- More control over UCR students
- More concern by UCR for our neighborhood and better communication between UCR and our neighborhood
- Drop UCR's plan to build giant parking garage near Big Springs Road
- Make UCR more open to neighborhood

### ***Aesthetics: Streets and Public Space***

#### Blaine:

- Intersection of Blaine and Iowa is a gateway to the city and it looks like a dump
- Speed bumps on Blaine
- Landscaped Island along the residential street of Blaine separating two lanes of traffic
- Lack of speed limit enforcement on Blaine

#### Spruce:



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

- Spruce St—it's a speedway; not landscaped; used as a dumping Grounds; not striped properly; dangerous. This entire corridor needs to be addressed
- Better street lighting on Spruce Street
- Stop signs on Spruce and Rustin
- Speed bumps near top of Spruce

### **Watkins:**

- Better streetscape—e.g. sidewalks on both sides of Watkins
- Watkins Drive changed back from being a speedway
- Enforce five-ton weight limit on Watkins Drive
- Watkins Drive and Blaine St off Watkins—a construction company has trenched the street and left it

### **University:**

- University Ave. should be a decent place all the way to the Downtown—get rid of the prostitution and drugs
- Clean up University all the way to downtown- get rid of drugs and prostitution

### **Other Streets:**

- Sewers down Valencia Hill
- Speed bumps added to north Mt. Vernon- between Big Springs and Blain
- Stop signs at Mt. Vernon and Big Springs and Valencia Hills are okay. Eliminate the two between Mt. Vernon and Big Springs
- Drivers need to slow down coming up or down Valencia Hill Drive off of Spruce or Blaine
- Create more bike lanes on Chicago, Linden, Spruce...etc

### **General/Misc. Comments:**

- A lot of dumping in the neighborhood—no enforcement
- More crosswalks for pedestrians
- Kmart, Stator Bros parking lots also need to be addressed
- Streets are dark—more lighting is needed.
- Tall ugly retaining walls should not be constructed (regulate the height of these structures)
- Eliminate "Special Boulevard" planned to dissect UCR botanical gardens and connect to MLK freeway entrance
- Landscape improvements- similar beautification to Canyon Crest, Ransom Rd.



- Street safety
- More streetlights on the street
- Lower the curb
- Slower driving on residential streets
- Sidewalk and curb repair
- Sidewalk and parking curb across from the homes
- Well-maintained streets

### **Enforcement of Laws/Regulations/Codes**

- Codes that address vegetation problems
- Certainty that Propositions R and C apply to this neighborhood
- Number of students per residence reduced (one student per bedroom)
- The students should obey the noise rules (10 pm)
- Noise and party laws need to be enforced
- Zoning control
- Blight- Code enforcement needs to make negligent homeowners fix their property
- Reduction in noise enforcement of vehicle noise rules
- No UCR student parking
- Code enforcement of neglected yards
- Get rid of the noise- cars and motorcycles without mufflers
- Need better code enforcement to improve appearance of neighborhood
- Prevent student multiple rentals- especial fraternity houses
- Council obeying its own bylaws with respect to development permits
- The present city codes enforced
- Enforcement of current regulations- parking, traffic and land maintenance
- Noise from rental property
- A gardener for rentals
- More code compliance (old cars- trash pick-up issues)
- Student disturbances and noise (parties)
- Cleaning of streets, no parking on street sweeping
- Enforce city codes

### **Schools and Education**

- After school programs at Hyatt and Highland elementary schools. (Parks and Rec.)



## ***University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1***

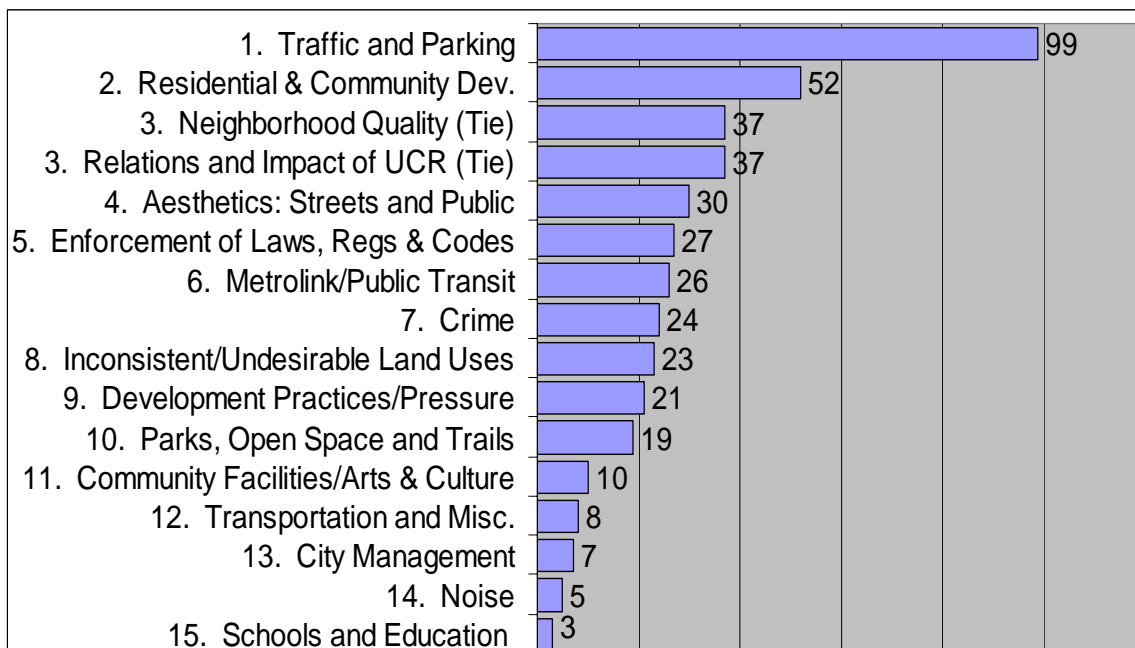
- Fewer students brought into local schools, which creates traffic problems
- Less school student (i.e. buses, traffic) at local elementary schools only local students





### **Question 3: What are the most important issues in your University Neighborhood?**

Many excellent comments were received in response to this question, but were essentially the same responses received for Question 2. Rather than repeat the comments, the responses were simply categorized into sixteen primary areas of concern and ranked based upon the number of times they were raised. The chart below graphically illustrates the public responses to this question.





## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**



### **Section 4: Other Comments**

The residents of the University neighborhood were also asked to provide additional comments on any topic on the feedback forms. Comments were also received through email and phone calls. The comments were transcribed and are presented unedited below. They represent a wide range of issues within the University Neighborhood.

#### **Other Comments:**

"I just moved to Riverside in July from Davis, CA. Davis (UC Davis) has done an exemplary job at developing parks, bike paths, and neighborhood schools. I would like to see Riverside take a look at Davis as an example. I have three small children and we have only one park to go to. We have no real safe place to walk or ride outside the Box Spring Mountains. I would like to see safe streets with parks and businesses to ride up to.

I also live on Flanders Road. I am hoping the property behind my house (which we thought was a park and is not) not be developed. We had no idea part of the park was privately owned. How about faculty housing? Thank you for listening! Please bring UCR to help alleviate problematic questions."

"Any plan designed for today? What time period are we planning for? 5 years? 10 years? 20 years? 40 years? 80 years? Who has the plans and future values in their best interest? Consultants (cash). Home Owners (selves). Developers (profit). City politicians (votes). Who controls the land use of the area over time? Who pays for betterment of the community?"

## University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1



"As a member of the public living in the area one has a future for my grandchildren and hope for them to experience a decent neighborhood that is not under threat of uncertainty. Safety and family life is important.

There is a universal saying in the United Nations that everyone has a right to own their property without anyone taking it away from them (I forgot the exact quote)."

"No more high-density housing (i.e. apartments) in area East of Watkins Drive. We are a single-family area."

"It would be nice to have a Park – i.e. develop Islander – patch of grass, basketball hoops. Don't need expensive play equipment."

"Consider nose-in parking in the apartment area. Parallel is getting out of control – some times they double-park."

"I live next to Dr. Castro and Dr. Lastis properties and would just as soon see it finally developed but at a density like that of the surrounding lots.

Our utilities are aging and not being upgraded. DSL is still not available for some of us and cell phone lines coverage is negligible at my house. The Sun Gold houses have power and phone lines in the back and the trees don't get trimmed. Our power lines drape across our neighbor's property, which is very dangerous. Today the cable company wouldn't let me even get cable TV.

Crosswalks – I need on across Valencia Hill at Box Springs Road (Also on UCR property across their parking lot access/egress roads along Big Springs Road).

And – I would love to be able to catch a Metrolink train nearby! I prefer to walk so a coffee shop in the strip mall would be great. Traffic is so bad I have to spend more time in the Denver Airport than at any Mall in Riverside thus year."

"Watkins Drive has been and should remain a single-family area with good sized lots. High density homes, apartments tend to lead to more crime and lack of ownership pride – becomes a slum area."

"My street, Maravilla Drive was last paved in 1969 when it was built. It is crumbling away and will soon lose its base."

"Please, please get rid of the shoddy rent by the hour and week motels on University. Please either tear down or move empty houses on University. Code enforcement of landscaped undeveloped areas. Please increase patrol – even with overtime – by UNET or beat police on Iowa, Canyon Crest, Blaine, and University. Pressure and add to wildlife corridors in the area."

"Please turn Valencia Hill Drive into a cul-de-sac."



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

"Total and complete moratorium on all new high-density housing anywhere east of Watkins Drive. No Metrolink stations anywhere. We need more than one community center, have no senior services and not teen services. Quiet zones and grade separations at all rail crossings."

"RTA – stops – wired, shaded, landscaped – comfortable to sit, not to sleep. More tech friendly – time in transit, time to arrival. Beautify stops – involve community. Hold design contest for shelters, add art sculptures, make budget go further."

"This neighborhood has been thoroughly abused by UCR without containment for years. Your plan has a goal that includes UCR being the major piece of our neighborhood. UCR is not the major stakeholder – the homeowners who pay taxes are. We're here long after the students leave, and leave their trashed rentals behind. This plan needs not to come out with UCR's goals all being met at our expense. We deserve safe streets, quiet neighborhoods, the ability to park in front of our homes, parks for our children, safe streets for our kids on their bikes, and places to shop at home not in Orangecrest. The city has bent over backwards for OC to have nice development – and we get a Baker's drive through and 7-11. We've been a neighborhood for 40+ years – treat us with respect."

"Watkins from Blaine to Freeway needs to be repaved, not patched, as soon as the freeway construction is completed."

"A few years ago we requested the City purchase the land between the Islander swimming pool and the RR track and develop a park. What happened? Tonight someone suggested a Community Center – a good place, the park mentioned."

"I'm teetering on top of the fence...I can continue loving (and staying) in my home – continue planting new trees, shrubs, painting, etc. OR I can sell out (I've been offered in excess of \$400,000 – I don't want to go – I've been here over 40 years. But the place seems to be going to hell on a handcart – would love to see my old neighborhood revert to the beautiful pleasant place it was! Now I'm tired and I'm going home!"

"Wheelchair access in local parks. It's hard for people to go up and down curbs when using walkers and wheelchairs - there should be more ramps on our streets."

"Metrolink is a huge threat. RCTC is aloof and non-communicative. UCR is less aloof but more aggressive and dangerous. As the state agency they have the

## University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1



advantage – park playgrounds are gone, housing is nefarious, crime has impacted insurance rates, traffic is dangerous. We have requested assistance repeatedly, ever several years. Prior council members have been impotent in representing our needs – traffic, homeless, etc. – for change. UCR preempts local rights. This is painful since our neighborhood was UCR for so long.”

“The city needs to protect our area from UCR, etc., invasion on our property. I have lived in my house for 37 years, raised family here and don’t want to fear my property being lost to developers – be it UCR or Metrolink.”

“A complete moratorium on any UCR expansion until they improve and can provide proof, the quality of their product! (i.e. their students)”

“Several years ago the outdoor running track at UCR was closed to the state tax payers with locks, chains, and signs. Elderly people trying to keep in shape or recover from strokes in the 6-8 am time period, when it wasn’t in use by the school for anything, were locked out. The university could make an effort to remain available to the community, not just foreign students. Or, develop walking trails with lights instead of the lumpy dirt fields called parks (Blaine and Valencia Hill).

Watkins between Blaine and Valencia Hill is constantly covered with broken glass from car break-ins. More police stakeouts? Cameras? Any effort to stop it? How about at least cleaning up the glass? Speed bumps needed on Spruce/ Valencia Hill Speedway connection.”

“We moved to the area because it was a quiet family neighborhood near the university and tucked away near the hills. Very concerned about the destruction of the area due to university’s ‘perceived’ needs and the railroad.”

“UCR seems to take a lot from out community, but doesn’t give back to the community. We are all anxious about what the city planners have in mind for our area. Many of us have lived here for years and do not want our homes taken from us. Many of us believe that the development that is happening will continue no matter what we say or how we feel and that these meetings are simply a legal step in a process that is already underway and not in the community’s best interest. It saddens me that the area is already so impacted with automobiles and traffic, stop signs, traffic lights and speed bumps. I think we are trying to put a band-aid on an amputation.”

“We need a library and community center – possibly one structure.”

“I am interested in the development of community gardens in our neighborhood.”



## **University Neighborhood Plan - Meeting #1**

"Finish 215/ 60 freeway ASAP. More UCR police patrolling. No dorm or lot on Valencia Hill. Contact UC Davis for a good student plan."

"Keep the neighborhood residential, no more apartments."

"I don't mind the Metrolink. I just don't want to move out of my neighborhood because I think it is a good neighborhood for children. If I have to move out and sell my house I want to be paid enough to get a similar house in a similar neighborhood."

"Ticket auto parked on the street on trash pick-up days – like Moreno Valley does. The cars prevent our trash from being picked up."

"If there is to be growth, which most of the time is inevitable, please, please, develop the area roads, streets, etc. first. Make growth easier for everyone to deal with, wider streets and more lanes will help during construction."

"I do not like politicians who say they care and yet go along with all the other council members. Also, I have lived here since 1966 and I don't want the city trying to use eminent domain in order to support the UCR area. Traffic is horrible on Blaine. I am so sick of all the construction going on. No more housing. Don't touch out Islander Pool. Stop bringing in students from other areas."

"Please turn these comments into action."

"If there are questions related to air quality in your Neighborhood Plan, I would like to offer my assistance."





# THANK YOU....

*To all of the University Neighborhood residents, business owners, and other interested individuals who participated in this event and provided excellent feedback. Your vision will shape the future of the University Neighborhood.*



## **DEFINING THE VISION**

*Your Neighborhood- Your Issues*